important activities of Central Water Commission include maintenance of network of key hydrological observation sites and flood forecasting stations.

(c) The issue of providing Ganga water to Delhi is to be resolved between the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. However, CWC acts as facilitator. At present Government of Delhi is getting Ganga water for its Bhagirath Water Treatment Plant with installed capacity of 100 million gallons per day. Further, Government of Uttar Pradesh had conveyed its no objection in 1998 for reserving 300 cubic feet per second (cusecs) of water for supply form the Tehri Dam for meeting the needs of Delhi. With the closure of the last diversion tunnel, the impounding of Tehri Dam has started in last week of October, 2005. Ministry of Water Resources has already advised the Government of Uttar Pradesh for necessary action regarding release of water from Tehri Dam to Delhi.

Water harvesting

†2396. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an I.A.S. officer in Devas, Madhya Pradesh has carried out an innovative experiment regarding water harvesting;

(b) whether such an experiment can be followed in other parts of the country also; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Yes, sir. The then Collector of Devas district of Madhya Pradesh during the period 2000—2002 had motivated the resident of Devas district of Madhya Pradesh to adopt Rain Water Harvesting and other artificial recharge techniques.

(c) 'Water' being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to take steps to encourage rain water harvesting. However, the following steps have been taken by the Union government in this regard:—

(i) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, has already carried out demonstrative projects

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

on Rain Water Harvesting and Airtificial Recharge under the IX Plan Central Sector Scheme for "Study of Recharge to Ground Water" in 27 States/UTs in the country with an objective to make Rain Water Harvesting a peoples' programme.

(ii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend of ground water levels.

(iii) Central Ministries/Departments of Railways, Defence, Posts, Telecommunications, Central Public Works Department and National Highways Authority of India have been requested to provide roof top rain wtater harvesting structures in the buildings under their control.

(iv) Central Ground Water authority (CGWA) has issued directions to Group Housing Societies, Institute, Hotel, Industries, Farm Houses, etc., in the notified areas of Delhi, Faridabad, Gurgaon and Ghaziabad and other areas of NCT Delhi where ground water table is below 8 meters from Ground surface, to adopt rain water harvesting system.

(v) CGWB has provided technical guidance on rain water harvesting to more than 2500 agencies, including State Government agencies, educational institutions, private entrepreneurs and individuals.

(vi) With a view to bring rain water harvesting schemes closer to common people, films on rain water harvesting in urban areas and rural areas have been produced for wide publicity among masses. Mass awareness programmes and training courses on rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge of gorund water have been organized throughout the country involving Central / State Governments / Non-Government Organizations /Voluntary Organizations / Resident Welfare Associations / Educational Institutions / Industries and Individuals. Rain Water Harvesting campaign has also been launched keeping in view the various target groups. Publicity through print media, telecasting of sposts on the television, broadcasting messages on radio, holding of seminars, workships, conferences etc. have also been undertaken.

(vii) The Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation, Government of India have amended Building Bye-laws, 1983, making provision for water harvesting through storing of water run-off including rain water in all new buildings on plots of 100 square meters and above in Delhi mandatory. Similarly, State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan and Kerala have made roof top rain water harvesting mandatory in specified cases.

(viii) An activity namely, "Demonstration of Rain Water Harvesting From Roof Tops and two toilets in Government schools in rural areas in various States through community Based Crganizations (CBOs)" was taken up during Fresh Water Year, 2003-04. Based on its success, more girls rural Government schools have been covered with roof top rain water harvesting projects, during 2004-05 and 2005-06.

(ix) Under the Bhagidari scheme of Delhi Government, Delhi Jal Board provides financial assistance upto 50% of the cost, subject to maximum of Rs. 50,000/, for rain water harvesting to Resident Welfare Associations/Group Housing Societies, Private recognized / Government Schools, Institutions, Industrial buildings, Hospitals, Charitable Institutions, NGO buildings etc., in areas of National Captial Territory, where rain water harvesting is feasible.

Special grants to Krishna Valley Irrigation Project

2397. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has sent a proposal to the Central Government for seeking special grants towards the Krishna Valley Irrigation Project and other irrigation projects running in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.